

Message Text

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44

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 NEA-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 IO-14 DRC-01 AID-20 /163 W

----- 125006

R 121022Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4113

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

CINCPAC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BANGKOK 9601

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR, SEATO

SUBJECT: REMARKS OF SEATO SECRETARY GENERAL AT OPENING OF
SEATO COUNTERINSURGENCY SEMINAR PX-50

1. SEATO SECRETARY GENERAL SUNTHORN OPENED THE SEATO PX-50
SEMINAR JUNE 12 WITH AN ELOQUENT RESTATEMENT OF THE
"NEW LOOK" IN SEATO EMPHASIS WHICH HAS EMERGED FROM
THE RESOLUTIONS OF THE SEPTEMBER 1973 COUNCIL MEETING
IN NEW YORK. SUNTHORN GAVE DUE NOTE TO THE FACT
THAT "SEATO IN DETENTE COULD NOT BE THE SEATO IN
THE COLD WAR" AND THAT THEREFORE SEATO WAR PLANNING
HAD BEEN "SUSPENDED" AND REPLACED BY EMPHASIS ON
THE PROBLEM OF EXTERNALLY SUPPORTED SUBVERSION.

2. SUNTHORN CALLED THE TREATY A "TREATY FOR ALL SEASONS"
IN THAT UNDER CHANGED CIRCUMSTANCES SEATO WAS NOW ABLE
TO SHIFT EMPHASIS TO LOW-PROFILE COUNTER-INSURGENCY
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SUPPORT TO THAILAND AND THE PHILIPPINES, "HELPING

THESE COUNTRIES TO HELP THEMSELVES "AND GIVING "MORE
ATTENTION TO THE NEEDS OF THE COUNTRIES IN THE AREA."

3. SUNTHORN DESCRIBED AN "UNOBTRUSIVE SEATO" AS
AN "ESSENTIAL PART OF THE SECURITY STRUCTURE IN SEA",
A SEATO OPERATING WITH THE BACKDROP OF THE "SO-CALLED
PEACE SETTLEMENT IN VIETNAM." HE FORESAW "NO MAJOR
CHANGE IN SEATO IN THE NEAR FUTURE." IN CONCLUSION
SUNTHORN WARNED THAT "THERE ARE GREAT DANGERS AHEAD,
TO LOWER OUR GUARD WOULD PROVIDE TO POTENTIAL AGGRESSORS
TOO GREAT A TEMPTATION. THE PERIOD OF EUPHORIA WE
HAVE NOW MAY BE OF LIMITED DURATION."

4. A SUMMARY REPORT OF THIS EXERCISE WILL BE SUB-
MITTED AT ITS CONCLUSION.
KINTNER

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Message Attributes

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